

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A ~~push~~ provider initiated notification method for notifying a subscriber having a first phone number ~~and a subscriber profile~~ comprising:

generating at least one second phone number that is mnemonically related to said first phone number;

determining that at least one second phone number ~~relating to said subscriber profile~~ is available for subscription; and,

said provider initiating communication ~~communicating~~ to the subscriber regarding the availability of said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 1, further including determining whether the subscriber is interested in subscribing to any of said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said communicating to the subscriber includes automatically pushing notification to the subscriber in response to determining that said at least one second phone number is available for subscription.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said communicating to the subscriber includes notifying the subscriber by at least one of a placing a phone call, sending a mailpiece, sending a network communication, and in response to receiving a communication from the subscriber wherein said received communication is any communication other than that of a subscriber initiated request for subscribing to an available phone number.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 4, wherein said received communication from the subscriber is received from at least one of a phone call, mailpiece, and network communication.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 5, wherein said mailpiece is one of a portable storage media, letter, postcard, and utility bill, said phone call is one of a voice, data, and

fax, and said network communication is one of a URI, e-mail, bill, and web page data.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method, as set forth in claim 1, further including generating said mnemonic relationship of said at least one second phone number from the first phone number.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method, as set forth in claim 7, wherein both the first phone number and each said second phone number includes same digits and said mnemonic relationship of each said second phone number is a different order of said digits with respect to the first phone number. ~~further including generating at least one more subscriber phone number for each said generated second phone number.~~

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method, as set forth in claim 7, wherein the first phone number and each said second phone number includes a ~~plurality~~ same amount of digits and said mnemonic relationship of each said second phone number differs by at least one digit with respect to ~~from~~ the first phone number.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method, as set forth in claim 7, wherein said mnemonic relationship of said generated second phone number is at least one of a contiguous, same area code, same central exchange, and same block of 10, 100, 1,000 or 10,000 numbers with respect to the first phone number.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said communicating to the subscriber includes processing a phone call in a communication network to the first phone number.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said processing said phone call includes receiving dialed digits from a calling party corresponding to the first phone number, placing a phone call connection from said calling party through the network to a called party of the first phone number, and communicating with said called party to determine whether said called party is interested in subscribing to said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein said phone call connection between said calling party and said called party is placed through one of a land line public switched telephone network, cellular network, AIN network, ATM, and IP telephony.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein said calling party is one of a service provider, telephone operator, and directory assistance provider.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein said communicating with said called party includes presenting a menu including options for one of a contacting said calling party and subscribing to said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 15, further including receiving dialed digits entered by said calling party on a telephone keypad, said digits identifying a selected one of said options listed in said menu.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 15, further including receiving speech captured from said calling party, said captured speech identifying a selected one of said options listed in said menu.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 1, further including receiving from the subscriber a filter list having said at least one second phone number before determining whether said at least one second phone number is available.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 18, wherein said determining that said at least one second phone number is available for subscription includes comparing each said generated second phone number to said filter list.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 1, further including receiving a communication from the subscriber wherein said received communication is any communication

other than that of a subscriber initiated request for subscribing to an available phone number.

Claim 21-22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (currently amended): In a communication network, a method for processing a phone call comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- receiving dialed digits from a calling party corresponding to a phone number;
- attempting to place a phone call connection from said calling party through the network to said phone number;
- determining that said phone number is one of a changed phone number and disconnected phone number; and,
- communicating with said calling party to determine whether said calling party may be interested in subscribing to at least one of a said phone number and any available phone number mnemonically related to said phone number.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A method for notifying a subscriber comprising:

- generating a first list having at least one phone number available for subscription;
- generating a second list having at least one subscriber, each subscriber having ~~a subscriber profile and~~ at least one subscriber phone number wherein each said subscriber phone number ~~relating to said subscriber profile and corresponds~~ is mnemonically related to said at least one phone number available for subscription; and,
- communicating to said at least one subscriber from said second list regarding the availability of said at least one available phone number from said second list that is mnemonically related ~~corresponding~~ to said at least one subscriber phone number from said first list.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The method, as set forth in claim 24, wherein said first list is a product list and said second list is a contact list.

Claim 26 (new): A provider initiated notification method comprising:

- discovering that a first phone number is available for subscription;

generating one or more second phone numbers that are mnemonically related to said first phone number;

determining that at least one second phone number is not available for subscription, said at least one second phone number corresponding to a subscriber; and,

communicating to the subscriber, the availability of said first phone number.

Claim 27 (new): A computer program product comprising computer readable program code stored on a computer readable medium, the program code adapted to execute a provider initiated notification method including discovering that a first phone number is available for subscription, generating one or more second phone numbers that are mnemonically related to said first phone number, determining that at least one second phone number is not available for subscription, said at least one second phone number corresponding to a subscriber, and communicating to the subscriber, the availability of said first phone number.